

January 19, 2000

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Dr. Felix D. Guerrero  
121 Tall Timber  
Kerrville, TX 78028

Jane Henney, M. D.  
Commissioner  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Room 1471  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henney,

I am writing to you because of my deep concern for the overuse of antibiotics as growth promoters in livestock, especially regarding its linkage to the emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. The European Union has banned all growth-promoting uses of antibiotics used in human medicine. There have been only minimal effects on consumer pocketbooks or producer expenses. In fact, experiments have shown that decreasing stress by reducing crowding and improving cleanliness often alleviates the need for antibiotics as growth promoters in chicken producing facilities.

I urge the FDA to follow the lead of the European Union and immediately ban animal uses of growth-promoting antibiotics used in human medicine.

Sincerely,



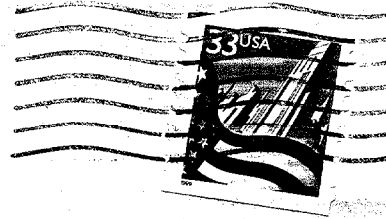
Felix D. Guerrero

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